IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claim 1 with the following:

1. (Once Amended) A message broker data processing apparatus comprising:

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means for receiving published messages on a topic from a plurality of publisher applications;

means for processing the received messages; and

means for distributing the processed messages to a subscriber application;

wherein the means for receiving includes a plurality of publication point data processing nodes, each of which receives published messages on said topic from a publisher application, and

wherein the broker data processing apparatus performs different processing on published messages according to the publication point on which said published messages are published.

Please replace Claim 2 with the following:

2. (Once Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said apparatus communicates with a subscriber application over the Internet and wherein at least one of the subscriber application and the publisher application runs in conjunction with a World Wide Web browser.

3.   (Cancelled)

[Please replace Claim 4 with the following:]

4. (Once Amended)   The apparatus of claim 1 wherein messages in different formats are published on different publication points, and the processing associated with each publication point is used to render the messages into a standard format available at a subscription point.

[Please replace Claim 5 with the following:]

5.   (Once Amended)   A message broker data processing method comprising steps of:

    receiving published messages on a topic from a plurality of publisher applications;

    processing the received messages; and

    distributing the processed messages to a subscriber application;

    wherein the receiving step is carried out via a plurality of publication point data processing nodes, each of which receives messages on said topic from a publisher application; and

    wherein the processing step performs different processing on published messages according to the publication point on which said published messages are published.

6. (cancelled)

Please replace Claim 7 with the following:

7. (Once Amended)   The method of claim 5 wherein messages in different formats are published on different publication points, and the processing associated with each publication point is used to render the messages into a standard format available at a subscription point.

8. (Original)   A computer program product stored on a computer readable storage medium for, when run on a computer, instructing the computer to carry out the method steps recited in claim 5.